

LABOR CLARION

The Official Journal of the San Francisco Labor Council

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No. 46

Wages and Hours Act Is Held to Sanction Reduction in Wages

Mrs. Mabel E. Kinney, chief of the State Division of Industrial Welfare, has transmitted to the press copies of a letter from Rufus G. Poole, assistant general counsel of the United States Department of Labor, wage and hour division, which, if upheld, would nullify the state women's minimum wage law, in the opinion of many interested persons, who claim that its reasoning is not in consonance with the federal wage and hour law.

The San Francisco Labor Council has taken action in the matter and will submit amendments to the statutes, if necessary, to preserve the intent of the state minimum wage law for women.

The letter from Poole is in part as follows:

Poole's Interpretation of Law

"Your letter and attached order of the California Industrial Welfare Commission pertaining to women and minor employees in California indicate that such employees must be paid at least \$16 for a 'standard week's work' of forty-eight hours; and that such employees must be paid at least 40 cents per hour for all hours less than eight worked in any work-day. You inquire whether any provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act requires 'that if an employer should now employ women forty-four hours a week instead of the former forty-eight hours a week he must still continue to pay them \$16, even though the number of hours of employment per week has been reduced.'

"Our Interpretative Bulletin No. 4 . . . states the following in the form of an example: '1. An employer prior to October 24 pays his employees 50 cents an hour for the forty-eight-hour week customarily worked by his employees. On October 24 the employer reduces the hours to forty-four, without altering the hourly rate. This is not a violation of the statute. Congress intended to make it economically disadvantageous for an employer to work his employees excessive hours. If an employer eliminates the excessive hours he is under no statutory obligation to increase his total wage bill by increasing the hourly rate.' You will note that we feel no provision of the act requires the employer referred to in your question to continue to pay \$16 for a forty-four-hour work-week. On the facts stated by you the most we feel the act can require to be paid for a forty-four-hour week would be \$14.65 (33½ multiplied by 44). It is clear, therefore, that if \$14.95 is paid to such an employee for a forty-four-hour week in compliance with the order of the California commission (\$13.35 for five eight-hour days at 33½ cents per hour plus \$1.60 for one day of four hours at 40 cents per hour) there would be no violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act. . . .

Basis of Official's Dictum

"You inquire further on what legal points we base our interpretation that \$16 need not be paid for the new forty-four-hour week. The only provision of the act relating to the reduction of wages is that found in the last sentence of Section 18, which reads in part: 'No provision of this act shall justify any employer in reducing a wage paid by him which is in excess of the applicable minimum wage under this act, . . . ' It is our

opinion that the word 'wage' used therein refers to an hourly wage, since where the word 'wage' is used elsewhere in the act this interpretation must necessarily be given to it. There is thus no prohibition contained in the act against reduction of a weekly wage so long as the hourly wage is not reduced. . . ."

A. F. OF L. UNIONS CERTIFIED

Three A. F. of L. craft unions have been certified as bargaining representatives in the South St. Joseph, Mo., plant of Armour & Co. by the National Labor Relations Board in Washington. An election among the hourly and piece-work-paid production and maintenance employees to determine if they wish to be represented by the United Packing House Workers (C. I. O.), the Armour Employees' Industrial Organization, or neither, was ordered within fifteen days. A. F. of L. unions certified were for coopers, operating engineers and electrical workers.

Wage Cuts to 25 Cent Minimum Are Most Illegal, Andrews Says

Elmer F. Andrews, administrator of the wage-hour law, has denounced vigorously the trick of some employers who are reducing wages to the 25-cents-an-hour minimum.

He considers this dodge "most illegal," but he is also thinking of a clarifying amendment to the law which would make prosecution easier and surer. Section 18 of the law, he said, was designed to prevent this trickery. Some lawyers claim that the reducing of wages from say 30 cents an hour to 25 is legal, but you can find lawyers who will say 'most anything,' says I. L. N. S.

About 1200 complaints on this score have been received. Special agents have been sent out to investigate. The administration and enforcement of this law are hampered by an insufficient appropriation for putting it into effect.

Employers' New Head

Francis P. Foisey, long active in West Coast waterfront labor relations work, has been named president of the Waterfront Employers' Association of the Pacific Coast.

Directors at a board meeting Friday last decided on Foisey to succeed Almon E. Roth, who resigned to become president of the newly-created San Francisco Employers' Council.

Foisey will assume his new duties December 31, when Roth's resignation takes effect.

Roth's position as president of the Pacific American Shipowners' Association will be filled by J. B. Bryan, long associated with the Waterfront Employers' Associations.

Foisey's life work literally has been in the service of shipowners seeking to build among themselves a strong federation. He will thus become the second president of the association which developed out of the Coast Committee for Shipowners, the employers' negotiating group during the 1936-37 strike.

He first went to work for shipowners in 1920 at Seattle. As coast-co-ordinator for the shipowners Foisey has traveled extensively between the ports, and in the various court and Labor Board cases involving the labor unions he has appeared as the shipowners' expert witness.

Employers Organize for Collective Action in Industrial Relations

Organization of a "San Francisco Employers' Council," including principal business and industrial groups, as well as individual employers, was announced last week by Roger D. Lapham, chairman of the organization committee.

Essentially, the new council provides a means for collective bargaining on the part of employers and employer groups, and for their mutual association and co-operation in employer-employee relations, according to Lapham. Each of the constituent groups will continue to be autonomous and independent in its labor relations. Each, however, may call upon the Employers' Council for advice and assistance.

The new organization, Lapham's statement said, is the outgrowth of much experience, and is directly along the lines of industrial organization in Great Britain and Sweden, as reported by President Roosevelt's commission, which found some employers' associations homogeneous in character and others, like this one, representing many different types of industry.

The objectives of the council, as stated in the articles of incorporation, are as follows:

Justice to Employer and Employee

1. To secure collective action by employers and groups of employers to the end that stable, peaceful and harmonious relations between employers and employees will be promoted and established, and that wages and working conditions fair and just both to employer and employee be maintained and honest and faithful observance of all agreements and obligations by all parties concerned be procured, always recognizing the public interest as paramount.

2. To promote and encourage the organization of autonomous groups among employers and to promote co-operation among such groups and individual employers for mutual consent and aid in matters relating to labor relations.

Collective Bargaining by Employers

3. To promote the recognition and exercise of the right of employers to bargain collectively.

4. When requested, to assist its members and others in matters relating to the negotiation, execution and performance of fair labor contracts.

5. To collect, compile and distribute information and statistics relating to any of the matters mentioned herein.

The employer groups now represented in the council include a number of the larger organizations of this character. These constitute a nucleus for widespread representation of employer groups and individual employers throughout San Francisco. Additional groups and individuals will be advised of the organization and objectives of the Employers' Council as rapidly as possible, and their participation will be invited.

Who and What Promoters Are

The incorporators of the new organization are Wallace M. Alexander, Wakefield Baker, Tod Bates, W. H. Berg, Charles M. Cadman, Francis Carroll, L. R. Chandler, A. W. Eames, Adrien J. Falk, John F. Forbes, Gregory A. Harrison, C. E. Heise, H. H. Hilp, J. W. Howell, Charles Ken-

(Continued on Page Two)

Employers Organize for Collective Action in Industrial Relations

(Continued from Page One)

drick, Roger D. Lapham, W. P. Laufenberg, A. J. Lowrey, C. K. McIntosh, R. S. Odell, C. D. O'Sullivan, Charles R. Page, Almon E. Roth.

A number of the incorporators represent employer groups. Those groups now so represented include the Association of San Francisco Distributors, Hotel Employers' Association of San Francisco, Building Owners and Managers' Association of San Francisco, Motor Car Dealers' Association of San Francisco, Inc., Central California Chapter, Associated General Contractors of America, Waterfront Employers' Association of San Francisco and Draymen's Association of San Francisco.

Other groups may be added. The president of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the president of the San Francisco Junior Chamber of Commerce and the president of the San Francisco Real Estate Board also are members of the Council.

As to the scope and operation of the new organization, Lapham said:

Chairman Lapham's Statement

"While one of the main purposes of the Council is to encourage the development of group organizations similar to the Waterfront Employers, the

Hotel Employers' Association, the Association of San Francisco Distributors and the San Francisco Retailers' Council, the council will furnish assistance and advice to employers not members of any group body, and it is expected that the council will eventually become the recognized spokesmen in a broad sense for all employers, whether group or individual.

"The Council expects to assist all employers by creating a department where information and statistics as to wages and hours in different industries will be available at any time. Such information is essential when settlements of disputes are submitted to arbitration.

"It seeks to promote sound industrial relations founded upon a collective employer strength comparable to the collective strength of organized labor. Such relatively equal strengths lead to mutual respect and to the making and keeping of fair working agreements."

Roth to Be President

Almon E. Roth, president of the Waterfront Employers' Association of the Pacific Coast and of the Pacific American Shipowners' Association, has indicated his willingness to accept the presidency of the San Francisco Employers' Council. Roth expects to sever his present connections as of December 31, 1938, and take up his new duties on the first of the new year.

The incorporators will meet shortly to organize and name their officers.

TO CLOSE FOR HOLIDAYS

All W.P.A. classes of the State Department of Education will be closed for the Christmas holidays from December 16 to January 3, inclusive. This recess will enable the teaching staff to participate in the Institute of Adult Education of the San Francisco Public High Schools, to be held December 19, 20 and 21 at Evening High School of Commerce. The following week W.P.A. teachers will attend their own institute at the Health Center Building.

Purchase union-label goods for Christmas.

Key to Prosperity

There is no method through which greater prosperity can come to America than through the buying of union label products. This will keep our money in America. It will increase employment. It will raise wages. It will better the conditions of every worker. It will increase purchasing power. It will reduce taxation for relief purposes. In general, it will bring us permanent prosperity.—I. M. Ornburn.

Chicago A.F.L. Unions Refuse to Join Strike Against Hearst Papers

(A.F.L. News Service)

The straight-from-the-shoulder facts regarding the strike pulled by the Chicago local of the American Newspaper Guild, affiliated with John L. Lewis's secessionist and dual C.I.O., against the Chicago "American" and the Chicago "Herald-Examiner," Hearst evening and morning papers, were pointedly uncovered in a statement, over Station WCFL, "concerning the attempt of the C.I.O. Newspaper Guild to involve the members of the American Federation of Labor in a strike against the Hearst newspapers," prepared jointly by President John Fitzpatrick and Secretary Joseph D. Keenan of the Chicago Federation of Labor, President R. G. Soderstrom and Secretary Victor A. Olander of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, and Organizer William Schoenberg of the American Federation of Labor.

"The American Federation of Labor unions, representing the vast majority of the workers in the Hearst plants and the other big Chicago dailies," the statement said, "will not permit themselves to be manipulated into any alleged strike against the Hearst papers or anyone else by a few blundering C.I.O. agitators.

A.F.L. Will Observe Agreements

"The printing trades unions in the newspaper field in Chicago are working under trade union agreements with the Newspaper Publishers' Association, covering the Hearst plants and the other big newspapers of the city. These unions will carry out those contracts regardless of any C.I.O. manipulators.

"The American Federation of Labor, the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Illinois State Federation of Labor will give full support to those unions and also to the Newspaper Commercial Associates of Chicago, consisting of A.F.L. members in the commercial, advertising and business administration departments of the plants, and to the Editorial Association, consisting of A.F.L. members among the reporters and editorial writers.

Facts About the Strike

"No members of the American Federation of Labor are involved in the alleged strike, which is basically a fight of the C.I.O. Guild against the regular trade unions and in defiance of the National Labor Relations Board. The facts in this respect are of interest to the general public as well as to the trade union members.

"Something more than six months ago the Chicago C.I.O. Newspaper Guild made application to the National Labor Relations Board for collective bargaining rights in such a manner as to indicate an encroachment upon the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated unions. The American Federation of Labor, the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Illinois State Federation of Labor and some twenty affiliated A.F.L. unions intervened.

C.I.O. Delays Ballot

"The Guild was asking that a vote be taken under the auspices of the board to determine what representation was desired by the workers. The A.F.L. representatives and their associates agreed to have a vote taken in the various divisions except the production departments, where the printing trades unions had been established over a long period of years.

"Large numbers of workers in the commercial, advertising and circulation departments then applied for and received a charter from the American Federation of Labor. It was clear that any vote taken would result in favor of the A.F.L.

"The C.I.O. commenced a series of maneuvers intended to delay the whole proceeding and suc-

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ceeded to such an extent that about seven months have elapsed since the hearings were initiated before the Labor Board.

"During this time the Guild representatives carried on a propaganda campaign intended to discourage the A.F.L. membership.

"The American Federation of Labor adhered to its original agreement to await a vote in accord with the National Labor Relations Act under the auspices of the National Labor Relations Board.

"Regardless of the fact that this was what the Guild itself had asked for, and the further fact that it and it alone is responsible for the delay in the proceedings before the board, the Guild officials now resort to strike action in a last desperate attempt to rehabilitate themselves for the blunders they have been committing in the past seven months. In an effort to save their own faces they are apparently willing to throw out on the streets not only the relatively few who have blindly followed their leadership but also great numbers of workers who have no allegiance with nor sympathy for the C.I.O.

Refuse to Recognize C.I.O. Guild

"In anticipation of this rash action the representatives of the regular printing trades unions met last Friday and authorized us to issue a statement whenever we considered it necessary to the effect that none of the printing trades unions would give any recognition to the so-called Guild, nor would they permit themselves to be involved in any violation of their agreements with the publishers. Any statement to the contrary which may emanate from Guild circles or anywhere else is untrue.

"The claim that there have been or are about to be conferences between the C.I.O. and representatives of the A.F.L. unions is equally untrue.

"The American Federation of Labor and its affiliated organizations are not involved in any strike against the Hearst newspapers nor any other newspapers published in Chicago. Any statement to the contrary is false. The American Federation of Labor, the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Illinois State Federation of Labor will continue to stand firm in defense of the rights and interests of their affiliated memberships.

"We have waited without complaint for more than a half year for the conclusion of the case which the C.I.O. itself brought to the National Labor Relations Board. And, so far as we are concerned, we will continue to wait until the proper procedure is carried out under the law.

"We shall advise our members to continue to maintain the integrity and good name of the various affiliated organizations by scrupulously adhering to the trade union agreements which have been of long standing in the newspaper field, and to extend these agreements to give protection to such of the relatively few workers who are not already within their protective scope under the banner of the American Federation of Labor."

A.F.L. Unions Refuse to Join Strike

Larry Kelly, president of the A.F.L. Chicago Editorial Association, and I. J. Braveman, president of the A.F.L. Newspaper Commercial Associates of Chicago, joined with the other labor officials in declaring that their unions were in no way connected with the C.I.O. strike.

"Members of the Chicago Editorial Association

of the A.F.L. are not involved in any strike," Kelly said. "We will continue to perform our duties. We are not bound by any action taken by any C.I.O. organization."

Braveman declared: "We are organized under the banner of the American Federation of Labor and that's where we intend to remain. We are not involved in any alleged strike against the Hearst papers. That's all there is to it."

FEDERAL THEATER PROJECT

Success of the hilarious farce-comedy, "Room Service," by John Murray and Allen Toretz, has caused it to be held over for another week at the Alcazar Theater, it was announced by Charles P. Teevin, district supervisor of Federal Theaters. The play closes Saturday night, December 17, to be followed on Monday, December 19, by Louisa M. Alcott's ever-living classic of the American home, "Little Women." "Room Service" in its third week has filled the Alcazar almost nightly.

New Culinary Contract

C. T. McDonough, business representative of the Local Joint Board of Culinary Workers, announces this week that a new working agreement between all large cafeterias of San Francisco and four culinary unions has been consummated, effective January 1, at the expiration of the present contract.

The contract provides for a daily increase of 50 cents in the lower brackets and continues other conditions now prevailing.

The pact will continue for the duration of the Exposition "and for one year thereafter." The unions concerned are Cooks No. 44, Waiters and Dairy Lunchmen No. 30, Waitresses No. 48 and Miscellaneous Employees No. 110.

Mooney Attorneys Again Appeal to High Court

Attorneys for Thomas J. Mooney have asked the Supreme Court to search its conscience before finally denying judicial remedy to the San Quentin prisoner.

John J. Finerty, counsel for Mooney, filed a "brief and appeal to the conscience of the court" in support of a petition for an original writ of habeas corpus.

"Counsel makes this final appeal to the conscience of the court," it said, "solely from a sense of duty to the petitioner, and to himself as a member of the bar of this court.

"Counsel is only too well aware that he risks seeming both futilely to tax the patience of this court and to adopt methods which may well appear naive or, worse, deliberately spectacular."

Building Trades Council Hold-Up Is Frustrated

A lone gunman attempted on Friday night of last week to hold up the office of the Building Trades Council, with the result that one man was shot and the hold-up was landed in the City Prison.

Arrested in a terrific struggle, the gunman was taken to Mission Police Station, where, after forty-five minutes of stubborn silence, he identified himself as Ernest LaRue, 25, 2119 Scott street.

The man injured was Paul Kracht, clerk of the Council, who suffered a leg wound.

LaRue entered the building shortly before 10 p. m., while scores of men were in the recreation room, walked into the adjoining office room and said, "This is a hold-up."

He reached in his pocket for a gun, but before he could draw it, Bud Glasser, a clerk, jumped at him. Kracht, another clerk, and Charles Rogers joined in the attack.

Rogers was knocked down and the fight swayed across the office for several seconds, smashing a window in the recreation room, before the hold-up man broke loose and drew his gun.

Glasser lunged forward again, grabbed the pistol and attempted to jam his finger under the hammer.

Before he could do so, however, the gunman fired two shots, one of which struck Kracht's leg.

Just as a mass of men from the next room stormed in, the trio subdued the invader.

Witness of the attempted hold-up and fight was Miss Margaret Campini, secretary to George Newsome, association secretary, who narrowly escaped being hit by one of the bullets.

A large sum was in the association office, as it is the custom of building trades union members to cash their checks there.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1938

San Francisco Employers' Council

One of the most important movements in the industrial life of San Francisco was launched last week by men and organizations prominent in the industrial, commercial and financial activities of the city.

Whether the organization of the San Francisco Employers' Council presages peace in industry or whether it is an outgrowth of the unlamented "Citizens' Alliance," the Merchants and Manufacturers' Associations and kindred movements, with their abortive efforts to kill off trade unions, leaving "open shop" conditions in their wake and crippling the efforts of the workers to have a voice in the making of wage scales under which they are to be employed, remains to be seen.

It is fair to say, however, that many trades unionists are inclined to take the announced aspirations of the promoters at their face value—at least until the contrary is shown.

The late Samuel Gompers, one of the shrewdest negotiators in the labor world of his time, was once quoted as saying that he would rather sit down with representatives of a given industry including all employers than he would to bargain with scores or hundreds of individual employers. The implication was that there was a chance to place them all upon an equality with reference to labor relations, and prevent disastrous differences in labor costs.

It may be that the unions, in dealing with an organization such as the Employers' Council, may find it a boon to peaceful labor relations. On the other hand, in the list of names and organizations listed as the incorporators there are those who still believe in the destruction of trades unions, and may attempt to use their group as a club to subdue labor.

If the Employers' Council really is interested in promoting "peaceful and harmonious relations between employers and employees" there is strong hope that it will be successful. Employees are just as interested in maintaining peace in industry as are employers.

Senator H. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire is one of those politicians who never get anything in their speeches quite straight. It is therefore no surprise to have him blathering that the Wagner Act and the N.L.R.B. foment strikes and boycotts.

The foreign policy of fascist and nazi governments was really put into the mouth of Kaiser Wilhelm thirty years ago by Wallace Irwin, as follows:

"Hilee, hilow, der winds, dey blow
 Chust like 'Die Wacht am Rhine.'
 And what is mine belongs to me,
 And what is yours is mine."

Minimum Wage Law Again

For several years the California women's minimum wage law, which was enacted to set a standard of living for women workers under which no employer should be allowed to pay less than the minimum set by the Industrial Welfare Commission, has been "more honored in the breach than in the observance."

Because a similar law had been held invalid in the District of Columbia no attempt was made to enforce the California law, with the result that no court test was ever held and employers openly flouted the minimum wage. A law somewhat similar to the California statute, passed by the Washington State Legislature, later was upheld by the United States Supreme Court, and the District of Columbia decision was reviewed and the court reversed itself.

And still no serious attempt has been made to enforce the California law, and with limitations and exemptions it has been practically a dead letter.

The reasons for this attitude of the Industrial Welfare Commission was quite thoroughly discussed some months ago in a pamphlet issued by the San Francisco Chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild, and the serious charges made therein have never been publicly answered by the commission.

The interpretation of the federal wage and hour law made by Rufus Poole of the Department of Labor is not generally believed to be correct, as that law was made for the purpose of raising wages and reducing hours, instead of furnishing an excuse for reducing wages already below the standards recognized as adequate for women workers.

The matter has been placed in the hands of the Law and Legislative Committee of the Labor Council, and it is quite likely that some program will be evolved under which decent living standards may be put into effect for women workers, despite the apparent indifference or worse of public officials.

Business Men, Attention!

The "Colorado Labor Advocate," Denver, suggests to business men: "Give some worthy resident of the city a job at a decent wage-rate at least for the holiday season, even if you have to stretch a point." Good suggestion for business men in every community. As the "Advocate" says: "Jobs mean sales to keep the wheels of business going."

Doing Unionism No Service

The National Labor Relations Board has ordered Douglas Aircraft Company to reinstate thirty-two sit-down strikers, eleven of whom were convicted in California courts of "conspiracy to commit forcible detainer."

The ruling is part and parcel of the board's policy of supporting sit-down strikes, evidenced before notably in its backing of sit-downers employed by the Fansteel Metallurgical Corporation of North Chicago.

There is strong public resentment against the sit-down strike, which has been emphatically condemned by the American Federation of Labor. The Labor Board bases its support of the sit-down on the ground that the employers in cases just mentioned employed unlawful tactics against the workers before the strike.

The board apparently forgets that two wrongs do not make a right. It is doing no service to unionism in backing the sit-down and, in fact, it is fostering action that has brought a state of the public mind leading to such repressive efforts as the attempt in three Pacific Coast states to enact anti-union amendments to the state constitutions. The amendments were defeated in two states but carried in one, which is reason for thought on the part of all organized labor.

Lima Conference

What happens at the Lima Conference will determine the limits of American policy in the Western Hemisphere for the next few years. The American delegation is not facing an easy task in trying to consolidate our "good neighbor" position in Latin America. The difficulty lies in the attitude of the United States toward expropriation moves by certain of the other American republics. There is reason to believe that this subject will be the chief stumbling block in the path of the continental solidarity doctrine which is being boosted in Washington talk about the need for larger American armament expenditures. As a matter of fact, experts are predicting that the "good neighbor" idea will be considerably slowed down unless the United States is willing to spend more time and money in boosting the weak economic position of many of the Latin-American states. Our southern neighbors are not certain that much of the recent talk about closer relations in this hemisphere is but another version of old-time American imperialism. They are waiting to be shown that it is not.

The administration recognizes the difficulties inherent in the situation. A new bureau of cultural relations has been established in the State Department. This bureau will concentrate its attention on the problem of closer relations with Latin America. A recent announcement that the State Department is going to ask Congress to appropriate \$998,804 for cultural activities indicates that the United States means business. The program contemplates seventy-four proposals, all non-military. It includes cultural missions, training of scholars and technicians, co-operation in radio, aviation and highway development, distribution of literature and films, a study of Latin-American resources, public health co-operation and encouragement of American travel in South and Central America.

Another phase of co-operation is in the field of military, naval and air missions to the other American republics. There are five nations with such details now and a sixth, Colombia, will be undertaken in the near future. The purpose of the missions is the training of the military and naval forces of the Latin-American nations. It is expected, if the arms expansion program is approved by Congress and the co-operation of the Latin-American nations secured, that there will be a boost in the sale of American war materials in Latin America.

Colonies for Germany

Columbus was not long dead when Francis I of France remarked that he would like to see the clause in Adam's will which divided the New World between Spain and Portugal. In different form, the same question is up again.

Officially, Germany has not demanded the colonies which were taken from her at the close of the world war. From a practical viewpoint, there is no reason why she should. Those colonies cost Germany more money than they gave in trade; with about 1,000,000 square miles of territory, the German population of those colonies was between 22,000 and 23,000; and most of these were officials and soldiers.

But while an official demand has not been made, publicly, representations have been so strong that the defense minister of South Africa, Oswald Pirow, has been in London to protest against any deals that give the Union of South Africa nazi neighbors.

What stirs South Africa most is the chance that the Portuguese possessions in that neck of woods will be handed over to Germany as a sop—and the Portuguese provinces are right on both flanks of the Union of South Africa.

President Roosevelt served notice at the University of North Carolina that the "new deal" is going right on.

Comment and Criticism

(I. L. N. S.)

Members of Congress beginning to sound off on various subjects.

Senator Borah, always good for a statement, predicts that if the United States joins the "hystrical" world armament race, popular sentiment will force Congress to approve a constitutional amendment giving the people the right to declare any but a defensive war. Stranger things have happened.

One thing is sure—the war referendum proposal will be up again, with Representative Ludlow seeking an immediate House vote on his plan.

The House shelved the Ludlow measure last January without voting on it directly. The vote on the shelving showed what Ludlow's supporters construed as strong support for the plan.

Senator Capper and other senators favor a plan similar to Ludlow's. Capper says he will push the proposal.

* * *

The foregoing is not an argument for or against the proposal to permit the people to vote on declarations of war. Congress, however, should certainly vote on any measure seriously considered by any considerable number of representatives or senators. That is good Americanism and don't let anyone tell you to the contrary. To dodge an issue is cowardly and only puts off the final decision.

That was what was done on the Ludlow bill and on Senator Wagner's anti-lynching bill. The anti-lynching bill had many supporters in the Senate but was not permitted to come to a vote. A time-wasting filibuster early in 1938 prevented a decision.

* * *

Several senators insisted states could deal with lynching, and indulged in tiresome guff for days in an attempt to support their position. Well, there have been six lynchings since June.

All of which makes Herr Hitler and his cronies point the finger of scorn at the United States as a nation given over to mob murder.

Lynch mobs never think how their lawless actions lay the United States open to criticism from enemies of democracy. It could hardly be expected that they would, as lynchers are incapable of thought.

* * *

Some senators are talking about the National Labor Relations Act.

It is suspected more than one would like to amend the act to death. They have had nothing to say about constructive changes proposed by the American Federation of Labor, and they have kept very quiet about the reappointment of Donald W. Smith to the Labor Board.

The American Federation of Labor, for what it considers very good reasons, wants to see Smith retired to private life. Vote on the reappointment is going to put some senators on the spot. How they will hate to place themselves on record!

* * *

Old year ending, new year coming fast.

A.F.L. made fine progress in 1938, despite unfavorable conditions a good share of the time.

Conditions are better now, and if improvement continues through 1939 even greater A.F.L. progress will be made.

What will 1939 bring? One guess is good as another.

The outlook seems fairly promising, though there are some disquieting circumstances, such as let-down in certain heavy industries.

Organized labor will be on the job and keep everlastingly at improving the condition of the workers, no matter what the new year brings forth.

Remember, when you are buying anything, always look for the union button and label.

WORKERS GENEROUS TO JEWS

Local 61, A.F.L. Luggage Workers' Union, started out to collect \$100 from its membership for the Allied Jewish Appeal. Leaders thought the men couldn't afford any more, because this had been a hard year for them. Sixty per cent of the men are non-Jewish residents of New York. When the returns were in they had raised \$1306. The employers took the hint and added enough more to bring the total up to about \$5000.

TWENTY THOUSAND RETURN TO JOBS

Temporary settlement of a strike at the Fisher Body Plant No. 1 at Flint, Mich., returned 20,000 workers to their jobs last week, but after-effects of the dispute forced the Pontiac factory to close, throwing 5000 men out of work. The Pontiac plant will resume operations when a normal production rate is resumed by the Fisher plant, which supplies Pontiac with bodies.

Job Insurance Payments

Two billion dollars in wages of California workers in industry and commerce have been subject to job insurance this year, including the estimated balance of the year, according to contributions received from employers by the State Department of Employment.

"Our collections since unemployment compensation began, in January, 1936, to date, are \$126,410,529.30," said James L. Matthews, chairman of the commission. "Roughly, all employers in industry and commerce, not including agriculture, public service, domestic service, charitable institutions and a few minor classifications, are covered, provided they employ four or more employees.

"The rate of contribution since January, 1938, has been the maximum rate—\$2.70 per \$100 of wages from employers, and \$1 per \$100 of wages from employees, the latter being deducted by employers and turned in with their own contributions."

The French Strike

(I. L. N. S.)

The strike of French workers as a protest against the policies of the government has failed more completely than even the correspondents on the ground believed possible. For this, there are three main reasons.

First and foremost, the patriotism of French workers, and their keen appreciation of the dangers to their country in the present situation of Europe.

Second, the power vested in the French government to call strikers to the colors, and thereby shift their allegiance from union or party to military officers. Many years ago a railroad strike in France was broken in this fashion, and Premier Daladier used it here. Those workers engaged in hospitals and in transporting food were expressly exempted from the strike call.

Third, the French workers have not been able, as yet, to agree on a program of reform. They agree pretty well on what they don't want, but they are not united on the practical questions of what they do want and what they will call for first.

When the French railroad strike was broken, half a generation ago, the government in power was wise enough to grant the strikers shortly afterward most of the benefits they had sought to win by striking. It is devoutly to be hoped by every worker in every country that Daladier will show the same wisdom, in even larger degree.

Under the French mobilization law, all mobilized workers who refuse to tend their jobs would be tried for desertion or insubordination by military courts. As soldiers they would be subject to long prison terms if found guilty of such offenses. Those who did not refuse would be receiving soldiers' pay and breaking their own strike.

Review of World Events

(I. L. N. S.)

France, through her administration which went back on its pledge to defend Czechoslovakia, has signed a no-war pledge with Hitler. Apparently this does not need to be ratified by the French parliament. The treaty provides that under no circumstances will the two countries fight each other again.

Hitler's promise is worth rather less than the paper it is written on. As was shown by a detailed list at the time of the Munich business, he has broken every promise he has formerly made, to the group that put him in power as well as to outside countries.

But—Hitler does not want a row with France at this time. He wants, as he states in his book, "My Fight," to turn first to the east, to establish the "Mittel Europa." He proposes to bring under his rule, directly or indirectly, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, Roumania, get Poland to content herself as a satellite state, and then go after Russia and the wheat fields of the Ukraine.

The no-war treaty merely means that the Daladier French government has promised to let Hitler go as far as he likes on his chosen path without interference.

* * *

Neville Chamberlain, coming back from the Munich "conference," said that he had insured peace "at least for our time." Since that time the most cruel and most carefully planned persecution of Jews known for centuries has broken out and is still raging in Germany.

Italy, by indirect means, has served notice that France must hand over to Mussolini the colony of Tunisia, where the French population is said to be 30,000 greater than the Italian, the island of Corsica, and the part of southern France long known as Savoy. It is true that this demand is not yet official, but Mussolini is reported to have officially asked how far Hitler will back Il Duce in dealing with France.

* * *

Four nazi spies in this country have been convicted in a federal court, and more are going on trial. And the latest dispatches from Lima, Peru, where the Pan-American conference is being held, say that nazi and fascist agents are trying busily to stir up strife by inciting the Latin-American delegations against the United States.

Peace?

* * *

Organized labor in South Australia, acting through its unions, recently rejected a plan to join in a "defense panel" being organized by its federal government. Back of the refusal to join in the panel is fear on the part of the unions that labor will be mobilized for industrial conscription, it is reported. Workers, jealous of the rights they have won through their unions, and active on both the industrial and political fronts, see in this plan a possible government attempt to maneuver organized labor into a position from which they could not retreat. They figure that legislation would do the rest and that labor rights, won by years of active struggle, would be lost.

MOBILE STRIKE HEADQUARTERS

Furniture Workers' Union No. 1859, Minneapolis, Minn., believes the strike headquarters should be "where the strike is." A large auto trailer was put in service at the strike at Puffer-Hubbard Company and was in use twenty-four hours a day. Since then it has been used at other strikes. The trailer is equipped with electric lights, stove, cots, etc.

We must define democracy as that form of government and of society which is inspired above every other with the feeling and consciousness of the dignity of man.—Thomas Mann.

Charge Is Made That Labor Board Is Partner Of Communistic Union

The National Labor Relations Board is a partner, willing or otherwise, of American Communications Association (C.I.O.), with its communistic background which has no other avowed purpose than the destruction of American institutions, it was charged in Washington, D. C., this week by Frank Powers, president of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor.

At the same time it was learned that the board had, at the request of the C.T.U., removed its name from the ballot in a forthcoming nation-wide poll among employees of the Postal Telegraph Company. Powers said:

"It is my understanding that the Postal Telegraph Company is closer to the brink of liquidation than it ever has been before. The company has been in the process of reorganization proceedings under the federal bankruptcy act since 1935, and the records in that case will show the company is bankrupt, with slim possibility of becoming solvent.

15,000 Jobs Menaced

"Activities of A.C.A., which is communist through and through, have brought almost total strangulation of the Postal Company system," President Powers declared. "If Postal is forced into liquidation some 15,000 employees will be thrown out into the street. They are the ones who will suffer, and the American Communications Association (C.I.O.) will be solely responsible. Furthermore, A.C.A. is guilty of slow-down, a typical communist technique.

"After the wage-hour law went into effect," Powers' statement continued, "the company withdrew a plan for reorganization which had previously been submitted to a federal court in New York, for further study. It was found that it would require from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 more annually to meet salary increases if the company was to adhere to the provisions of this new law. Messengers were laid off to help cover the cost. The Federal Communications Commission was appealed to for a 15 per cent rate increase, which was denied. The government was asked to increase its rate of payment from 40 per cent to 100 per cent, which request is still under consideration.

A.C.A. Sabotage Charged

"Even if these requests are granted it is considered doubtful that the Postal Company could avoid what now seems the inevitable—liquidation of its business and the resultant unemployment of some 15,000 persons.

"These requests are serious ones and before being made much thought and deliberation was

given them by the company and, in addition to these problems, which were enough in themselves to practically throttle the life blood of the company, the A.C.A. deliberately increases the woes of the company by its system of sabotage.

"The Telephone Company is in business unfairly with the telegraph companies through the use of teletypewriter service. The next session of Congress is expected to consider legislation to restrict the telephone companies to telephone business. Such legislation would undoubtedly release considerable business back to the telegraph companies. If the Postal Company were then nonexistent it would place the Western Union in the position of having a monopoly, for which Western Union could give thanks to the National Labor Relations Board, with its pro-C.I.O. tendencies, and the A.C.A., with what appears to be a well regulated and oiled system of destruction.

"Within the past year the A.C.A. has turned its attention toward Western Union employees, but has not found any sentiment there. At the present time we have several thousand of such employees organized and we hope to have many more in the very near future. We have reason to believe that the employees of Western Union will be allergic to the poisonous venom dished out by the A. C. A. or any of its kind."

Sought to Aid Company

Patrick J. Taft, counsel for C.T.U., made the following statement:

"We asked that our name be removed from the ballot in the nation-wide poll among Postal employees ordered by N.L.R.B., because we do not want to be a party to an action which will assist materially in the final destruction of the company. Until the board ordered the nation-wide election be held we had been fighting for the employees of the company in forty-five cities who had evidenced their desire to have C.T.U. represent them as sole bargaining agency by signed membership applications, which are now on file with the board. It was more than a question of seeking members. We felt that we were in a position to help them and the Postal Company."

Children of Migratory Workers To Have Christmas Celebration

Labor organizations, club women's and social action groups, famous Hollywood screen and radio celebrities, and state and federal agencies are participating in plans for a mammoth Christmas party for the children of migratory agricultural workers at the Shafter Farm Security Administration camp for migrants, near Bakersfield, December 24.

The entertainment program will be broadcast over the National Broadcasting Company's Red network for one hour, from 2:30 to 3:30, P. S. T., December 24. The last half hour, from 3 to 3:30, will be heard from coast to coast. The first half hour will be heard on Pacific Coast stations only.

State Labor Meeting At Hollywood Tomorrow

Labor's legislative program for 1939 will be one of the major topics of discussion at the quarterly meeting of the executive council of the California State Federation of Labor to be held in Hollywood Saturday, December 17, and Sunday, December 18.

Edward D. Vandeleur, secretary of the Federation, announced that preliminary plans for proposals to be sponsored by labor at the coming session of the Legislature, including the numerous proposals adopted by the September convention of the Federation at Santa Barbara, will be the principal topic on the agenda.

Organizational plans for the coming year will also be discussed, and Secretary Vandeleur will make a report on his recent conference with William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in Washington, and his more recent conferences with Frank Morrison, secretary of the A.F.L., on his visit to San Francisco.

Secretary Morrison, who came to San Francisco primarily to make arrangements for the 1939 convention of the A.F.L., to be held in San Francisco next October, returned to Washington Sunday night.

C. J. Haggerty, Los Angeles, president of the Federation, will preside at the executive council meeting, which will be held in the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Vice-Presidents of the fifteen districts of the state, ranging from Eureka to San Diego, will be in attendance. Various delegations are expected to be heard on numerous matters.

Communist Party Executives Back Big Armament Program

The National Committee of the Communist party of the United States, meeting in New York City, unanimously passed a resolution calling for a heavy armament program in this country, saying that "only American arms can prevent the Americans from conquest by the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo alliance."

The "Daily Worker," Communist party organ, praises warmly the "drive for national security" and Earl Browder, general secretary, said:

"If armaments are for the defense of the liberty and independence of our own and other people, emphatically 'yes.'"

C. I. O. Contract Invalid

Judge Charles A. Walsh of the Superior Court of Providence, Rhode Island, has ruled that the contract between the United Textile Workers of America and the C. I. O. is invalid. At least 350,000 are said to be enrolled under this contract.

The judge referred to the contract, signed by John L. Lewis for the C. I. O. and by President Francis Gorman for the textile workers, under which the Textile Workers' Organizing Committee of the C. I. O. was to manage the textile organizing campaign, and was to have large powers over the organization.

"It is fair from reading the contract to deduce that it was the intention of the parties to said contract that the U. T. W. A. should, in effect, be dissolved," said the judge. "No opportunity was given to the local unions to express their wishes in the matter, and hence it is impossible to say whether at least nine unions would not dissent."

The U. T. W. A. constitution provides that the organization cannot be dissolved while nine local unions dissent. The judge insisted that a convention should have been called and the constitution of the order changed before the contract was signed.

The matter will be carried to the State Supreme Court.

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Sturdy "Headie" jeans for boys 6 to 16. Well made for long wear

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Green Predicts Triumph Of Justice Over Nazis

Presiding at the dinner given in New York to launch the Leon Blum colony of 1000 Jewish refugees in Palestine, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, put organized labor squarely in the front ranks of those who are protesting in every possible way against persecutions in Germany, whether of Jews, Catholics or Protestants. He said, in part:

"We vigorously protest against the persecution of Jewish people in Germany. We protest against the interference with the exercise of the rights of Catholics, Jews and Protestants to worship in accordance with the dictates of conscience. We protest against the destruction of free, democratic trade unions. We protest against the rule of autocrats and dictators everywhere. We appeal for the establishment of freedom, democracy, good will and peace throughout the world.

Labor Backed Palestine Program

"It seems quite appropriate to dwell for just a moment upon the availability of Palestine as a home land for persecuted Jewish people. The American Federation of Labor espoused this program at an early date. In November, 1917, it officially declared: 'Inasmuch as among all these small nationalities the Jews alone have no home land of their own, we urge upon the President and the International Congress which will negotiate terms of peace the legitimate claims of the Jewish people for the establishment of a national home land in Palestine on a basis of self-government.'

"The American Federation of Labor has consistently co-operated with and supported the fine trade union movement established in Palestine.

Righteousness to Prevail

"Democracy is the safeguard against oppression and racial discrimination. This is made clear at the present moment. For instance, no one believes that the German people are in sympathy with the policy of the dictator who originates and formulates his governmental policies. When Germany and Austria were democracies minorities were protected. It was only when a change of government came and a dictator came into power that persecution and oppression of minorities and religious and trade-union organizations took place.

"We cannot believe that the policy now being pursued by nations subjected to autocratic control can continue indefinitely. Surely, righteousness and justice will ultimately prevail."

President Thanks T.V.A. Workmen On Behalf of People of Nation

President Roosevelt visited the Chickamauga Dam across the Tennessee River on his way to Warm Springs. He was accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt and by Keith Morgan, chairman of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The President thanked the 2000 workmen busy on the dam, and told them that the work they are doing "will cause equal progress, not only in the Tennessee Valley, but in other parts of the country—even in parts of the country where there are no rivers to put dams across. We are doing something constructive that will affect the lives of our grandchildren," he said.

"That is why I want you to know," he added, "that not only your government is proud of the work that is being done in the Tennessee watershed—not only the people of Tennessee and the other states in the watershed—but also people all

over the United States are watching your work. That goes down to the common labor, the day labor on this job, and extends all the way up through the different trades and professions to the commission itself. I am glad to have been here and glad to have had this opportunity of thanking you on behalf of the nation."

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The first ten months of 1938 saw a total of 1,971,094 benefit checks distributed by the California Unemployment Reserves Commission. The amount distributed was \$18,840,409, an average of \$9.56 per check. The manufacturing industry continued to receive a majority of the benefits. Highest individual check average was in the rubber products industry.

AN UNENVIABLE RECORD

Although coal miners in the United States have a higher output per man than those of any other nation, an International Labor Office report on accident risks, which was submitted to a committee of experts that met in Geneva this month to discuss "Safety in Coal Mines," shows that the fatal-accident rate in American coal mines is higher than in those of any other country except Japan.

W.P.A. and N.Y.A. Workers To Get Checks in Time for Holidays

Approximately a million W.P.A. and N.Y.A. workers who normally would be paid immediately after Christmas or New Year's day will receive a pay check by December 24 or 31, Works Progress Administrator Harry L. Hopkins announced this week. This has been assured, he said, through a rescheduling of project work and through arrangements with the Treasury and Post Office departments to expedite wage payments.

Good Positions Listed For Award This Month

Candidates to participate in a competitive examination to fill four different types of municipal jobs are wanted, the Civil Service Commission announced this week.

Applications to take the test must be filed with the commission before December 30. The jobs are:

Stage carpenter, War Memorial Opera House, salary \$12.50 per day; sewage treatment plant superintendent, salary \$350 per month; sewage treatment plant assistant superintendent, salary \$300 per month; sewer pumping station attendant, salary \$145 per month.

Purchase union-label goods for Christmas.

YOU CAN BUY PREPARED UNION - MADE SANDWICHES

For your home use for less than you can make them

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Encouraging Reports of Federal Reserve Board

The Federal Reserve Board announced this week its index of industrial production had passed 100—formerly regarded as the normal level.

The figure of 100 on the board index equals industrial activity of the 1923-25 period. Making allowances for growth of population and industrial capacity, economists now place the "normal" figure—representing a rate of industrial activity at which unemployment would virtually disappear—at about 140.

However, the 100-plus rating of industrial output which the board reported represented a rise of about 25 points from the recession low of last May and showed American factories had reached the level of October, 1937, which was the second month in which the recession curtailed production. The recovery peak was 118.

Exact index figures for November are not yet available, but the board said in its monthly bulletin:

"Business activity increased in November, continuing the rise which began early last summer. Industrial production, as measured by the board's seasonally adjusted index, reached a level slightly over 100 per cent of the 1923-25 average, as compared with 96 in October and an average of 77 in the second quarter of the year.

"The advance in November reflected chiefly a further substantial increase in steel production and increases in output of automobiles and textiles."

The bulletin also ascribed the recent increase of money in circulation to a combination of increased use of cash instead of checks, hoarding of American money by foreigners, and improved business.

Another financial development was an announcement by Secretary Morgenthau that sales of United States savings bonds since they were first offered on March 1, 1935, amounted on November 30 to \$2,013,114,000, maturity value.

W.P.A. WORKER KILLED

Stephen King of 715 Howard street, W.P.A. worker engaged in constructing new Fort McDowell roads at Angel Island's north end, was killed last week when a large rock loosed in a dynamite blast struck him on the head.

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Near 20th Street

Run o' the Hook

By A. B. CRACKBON
Acting President Typographical Union No. 21

Word comes from St. Joseph's Hospital, where President George S. Hollis has been confined for some time, that while he has not shown the improvement hoped for by his family and friends, his condition is improving, giving grounds for the hope that he will be able to resume his duties at headquarters soon. Meanwhile he is being kept as quiet as possible to aid the progress of recovery.

San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21 will meet on Sunday next at 1 p. m. in the Labor Temple.

Death of Thomas F. Foley occurred December 8. The veteran printer, a Californian by adoption, was in the trade fifty years, and held positions of trust with several of the larger commercial plants. Almost it could be said he was a San Franciscan, as he worked here thirty-six years, having retired in 1933. Mr. Foley enjoyed fairly good health almost to the end, which came in his seventieth year, leaving his widow, Mrs. Emma G. Foley, to mourn his passing.

"Run o' the Hook" received word that Colonel White is ill at his home. Every newspaper "typo" knows the Colonel, he having operated on the "Examiner" for years, although his large acquaintance derives from his chairmanship of the Hearst organ over a long period. Colonel White retired some time back and is now 78 years of age.

The Santa Ana "Register" bought out its competitor, the "Journal," recently, resulting in loss of many jobs. It is understood little if any equipment will be transferred to the buyer's plant. Mechanical employees received a week's pay to soften the blow.

"The growing belief that Mr. Hearst is gradually letting go of his empire gains strength. Teletype machines which used to transmit editorial, sports and other matter to San Simeon were removed last week."—Los Angeles "Citizen."

A picket line in front of the "Chronicle" was explained as directed against Press Wireless, Inc., an organization having offices in the building but having no connection with the paper. The pickets were not requesting union employees of the "Chronicle" to observe the picket line.

Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, departed for Chicago, thence for Washington, D. C., early this week, having come here to make arrangements for that organization's 1939 convention, scheduled for October, and, incidentally, to renew old acquaintance. The secretary is proud of his achievements, and confided to the writer some of the highlights of his career in a short visit to his St. Francis headquarters, but possibly a few words will say a lot: He has represented the International Typographical Union on the A.F.L. for 43 years and is now in his 80th year, though scarcely anyone would surmise it due to a clear, vigorous enunciation and an energetic manner. During his sojourn celebrities in all walks of life called to pay their respects.

The City of Angels is minus one with the departure of Lucile Davis for her San Francisco home. The blonde Miss Davis stayed with relatives down L. A. way several months.

An early morning starting time and a suburban home are shy on affinity, opined Ina Rickard, so she leased her house "way out in the sticks" and rented a downtown abode.

Apparently it takes more than a truck to keep our genial First Vice-President F. E. Holderby on his back, he having left the hospital last week.

"Pinky," as he is known to "typos" from coast to coast, expects, if no complications ensue, to be up and around by the first of the year.

Hope is entertained that M. E. Van of the Inter-type Corporation, confined to his home with arthritis several weeks, will be able to take up his duties on or about January 1.

Considerable interest is manifested by disciples of Gutenberg in the wage-hour law. Employers, I am informed, are endeavoring to conduct their business in accordance with its provisions, that is, those coming under it, though it is said federal authorities may be months in getting to where they can enforce it owing to lack of funds.

A rumor going the rounds to the effect Harry Beach had finally capitulated to Cupid and would amble to the Hymeneal altar were halted by the gentleman himself, who with a rueful smile stated the report is greatly exaggerated.

The sports department demanded a place in the sun long enough to tattle about that Sunday golf game between Harvey Bell and Louis Henno. It was a follow-up from the previous Sunday and went almost as per usual, which is for Bell to win one, then for Henno to cop one and vice versa. The last game was Bell's, 1 up, on Henno's home course, Harding Park.

Arthritis seems to be no respecter of persons. Another "typo" to give way to it is Phil Scott, makeup. His physician told him he would have to hire a sub several months while he took treatments.

Call-Bulletins—By "Hoot"

Ernie Clark, our chess bug, has a beautiful set of men and board of his favorite game. The men represented, on one side, famous Germany military men and statesmen, while their opponents are Frenchmen holding the same ranks. Here's hoping they don't come to life and start shooting. "Check."

Ed ("Scoop") Gleason, who held positions as sports editor, managing editor and special writer on this paper for years, has left.

Santa Claus made a before Christmas visit to the chapel and left a position as proofreader in the sock of Harry Johnson. Call again, Santa, for some of the other boys.

According to one of our boys, a ladies' society in town caught a ghost the other day, when they held a "jinx." But those things do happen here.

J. H. Loates, who was seized with a bad spell a couple of weeks ago, is showing up again.

Melvin Luscia, after filling in as a roving regular while the other boys were enjoying a day off, now has a steady situation.

Talking about golf, we have a trophy among our souvenirs that we captured while a resident of Los Angeles. We got it for turning in a score of 69-2-67. Then the next week we turned in a 71-2-69 which gave us another cup. Needless to say we learned a' about gowf in Edinburgh, Scotland. To really get a thrill at the game you have to play in the snow, when you use a red ball, and a wee drap o' the hard stuff.

It is about time all the wee bairns, aye, and some o' the auld yins, were beginning to be good, as Santa Claus is liable to pop in any time to see how they are behaving.

L. T. ("Ole") Olson, night chairman, having the same surname as the governor-elect, has been named "Governor" by his confreres.

DESIRE FOR RECONCILIATION

Secretary of Labor Perkins told a press conference in Washington that she has found a real desire for reconciliation between the two opposed labor groups among both A. F. of L. and C. I. O. members; and that this desire is growing. Asked about the naming of a peace committee, she answered that this was one of many "trial balloons" which ought to be tried.

Mailer Notes

By LEROY C. SMITH

The regular monthly meeting of Mailers' Union No. 18 will be held at the Labor Temple on Sunday, December 18.

Presuming to have only the interests of the working mailer at heart, certain self-sacrificing and alleged leaders endeavored to convince mailers that withdrawing from the I.T.U. and forming a mailers' international union would assure them peace, prosperity and happiness. But the majority of mailers and a majority of printers voted in favor of mailers remaining in the I.T.U. Later the same would-be "shepherds of the mailer flock" promised great things in the way of benefits to them if mailers not affiliated with the M.T.D.U. would only "see the light." They would become members of the M.T.D.U., which, with its proposed new laws, would permit, they said, "mailers to govern mailers," bringing peace and plenty of improved conditions to the rank and file of those unions. Doubtless members of "out-law" and I.T.U. mailer unions figured the "peace" would be defined by the "top sergeants" of the M.T.D.U. and the "plenty" likewise; that is, taxation without representation, as none have affiliated with the M.T.D.U. As a result the unions not affiliated with the boss-ridden and moribund M.T.D.U. should offer a proposal to discontinue payment of dues to it. Either that or withdrawal of the mailer injunction is the only sure road to a mailer peace.

The M.T.D.U. officers might devote efforts to bringing influence to bear on the turmoil existing in the New York union. "We speak of the duties of a chairman," says a scribe in New York "Printing Worker." "Have they been performed to the best of their ability? We say No. Why not? Now we come to the cause: The power of foremen-officials over the union and the chairmen. . . . Get rid of the foremen-officials and return the union to its members. . . . 'If I went through with what is on my chest,' said one chairman, 'I would be out of a job in no time.' Our present form of voting is a disgrace to Mailers' Union No. 6. Everywhere you go you hear nothing but the way the officers conduct the meeting. The mail deliverers say, 'Why don't you get voting machines like ours?' The pressmen say, 'Why don't you take them to court? We did.' The printers say, 'Sure, we vote in the chapels but we don't have a foreman standing over us to intimidate or coerce us. We have a chairman who represents the men in the chapel. When we vote we take our ballot to any part of the room to mark. We are not made to stand by the ballot box, as in the "Herald-Tribune" and other mailing room chapels.'

"An opposition ticket to foremen-officials has been nominated for officers of Mailers' Union No. 6. Each candidate works at the bench and was nominated by a member at the bench. Don't be misled by soothing words of your foremen—they only come around at election time."

New York is the largest M.T.D.U. union.

INTER-UNION SCRAP

In a clash between A. F. of L. and C. I. O. unionists on the waterfront near the Congress street wharf, New Orleans, an A. F. of L. longshoreman was shot in the leg and several C. I. O. men were hit by brickbats. The fight was attributed to the A. F. of L.'s campaign to upset the results of a labor board election in which the C. I. O. scored only a minor victory.

PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY

Full support and co-operation in the "Fight Infantile Paralysis Campaign of 1939" is pledged to President Green as chairman of the Labor Division, Committee for the Celebration of the President's Birthday, by eighty-one officers of national and international unions.

JAS. H. REILLY & CO.

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Capital Highlights

By GEORGE L. KNAPP (I. L. N. S.)

Thirty-two states report no cases of workers losing jobs because the wage-hour act shortened hours and put a floor under wages. Four states and the District of Columbia report one such case each—for instance, at Portland, Me., 141 carrier boys for paper firms were dismissed because of being under age. But over an enormous majority of our territory a still vaster majority of the employers of cheap and long-time labor have met the change.

There is something mighty encouraging about this. The report of Elmer F. Andrews, wage and hour administrator, to the President shows other bright spots, as well as the figures given. About 750,000 workers have had their pay raised, and at least 1,500,000 workers have had their hours shortened.

Other facts revealed by that report are not so bright. Seasonal occupations show the highest percentage of underpaid workers who have been discharged. Pecan shellers dismissed number 11,000, mostly in Texas. Tobacco workers in the eastern South probably come next. Southern lumber mills are high in the ranks of wage gougers. Some textile mills have been running overtime till the law took effect, and are shut down now—just as in the days of N.R.A.

From 3000 to 6000 clothing workers in San Antonio are expected to be idle. They are all home workers—and when the wage gouger gets into the homes of the very poor he works havoc indeed. This particular trouble is about to be "adjusted."

* * *

No one save the very sizable number of those who personally know and love him takes greater pleasure than labor does at the all but universal recognition and appreciation of Justice Louis D. Brandeis on his eighty-second birthday. The labor unions of Massachusetts worked with Brandeis for the savings bank insurance of that state, which has proved such a success. Brandeis gave the counsel and advice which started the McElwain shoe factories to guaranteeing fifty weeks' work a year, when thirty weeks was a fair average for its competitors.

A dozen other services of the sort Brandeis rendered while still a lawyer, and there was no forgetting of labor's rights when he came to the bench. When the Supreme Court upheld an injunction forbidding a stone-cutters' union to refuse to work on "scab" stone, Brandeis declared in a ringing dissent that such an order "reminds of involuntary servitude." In his dissent from a decision knocking out a law regulating the ice industry in Oklahoma, he used words that can never die:

"If we would guide by the light of reason, we must let our minds be bold."

In the last two years he seldom has been obliged to dissent. His liberalism has been contagious.

The "Brass Brain"

(I. L. N. S.)

The United States Coast and Geodetic Survey publishes each year predictions of the time and height of high tide and low tide for 104 chief ports of the world. The figures for 1939 were sent out recently. They are accurate to an amazing degree; only an earthquake can make them really go wrong. With these predictions go tables of the differences between a given port and the nearer smaller ports. For example, in finding the time of high tide at Mount Vernon, Va., on July 4, 1939, you would look at the chart showing the time

when that will come at Washington, and subtract about thirty minutes.

These predictions and tables of differences are sent to harbor masters and other port authorities, and to captains of ships. By their aid you can read off, so to speak, the high tide and low tide at 4200 ports scattered over the world at any day of 1939.

And all the basic computations are made, not by the mathematical calculations of hundreds of experts, but by turning a crank on a machine. They call that machine "the brass brain"—and it well deserves the name.

This "brass brain" is located in the Coast and Geodetic section of the Department of Commerce building at Washington. It is about twelve feet long, a little over six feet at its top part, and not more than two feet wide. It is composed, roughly speaking, of parallel lines of plates and braces and wheels and chains of brass, and the bringing of each bit of the machine to the required degree of exactness is a near-miracle of skill. And while it belongs to Uncle Sam, and is located in one of his biggest buildings, he didn't pay for it. It was built on odd time.

Along about the year 1900, R. H. Harris, head mathematician of the Survey, and E. G. Fischer, top mechanic, decided to make a better tide machine than any of the three then in existence. These took account of only a few of the factors which affect tides; the two men named meant to account for all of them. Uncle Sam made no appropriation for the work, but at odd times Harris worked out the mathematics and Fischer worked out the machine, part by part.

It was finished in 1910; it can give the results of thirty-seven factors, though not so many are commonly needed; it has given for twenty-eight years more accurate figures than a corps of mathematicians could give.

Hatters Score Again

Another victory has been won by the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union in its fight against runaway shops.

In a preliminary decision in Chicago by David F. Smith, trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board, the Murray Hat Company of De Kalb, Ill., has been found guilty of violating the National Labor Relations Act.

The company has been in business in Chicago under the name of the Kronthal Manufacturing Company. To escape the union it moved to De Kalb, where it opened a non-union shop, but again encountered stiff opposition from the union, which followed it to its new place of business, called a strike, and picketed the shop.

The trial examiner recommended dissolution of the company union and cancellation of its contract with the company, reinstatement of eight employees fired for union activities, with back pay from the time of their discharge last February.

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Established 1906
Union Hours Union Clerks
CORNER MISSION AND THIRD
Specializing in
Union-made Clothing, Furnishings and Hats

Tax on Chain Stores

Already at a high pitch is the fight chain stores are waging against the Patman bill, to be introduced in the next session of Congress, providing for chain store taxation.

Representative Wright Patman of Texas, a foe of chain stores, introduced his bill in the last session, but it failed of passage. It is said to stand a good chance of passage this year, and the chain stores are already up in arms about it.

The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Stores, the largest chain store organization in the country, is heading the fight and has hired publicity experts and advertising men to assist its campaign. Already an ad expressing the company's determination to fight has been placed in 1300 newspapers in thirty-nine states, and there are more ads to come.

Recently the A. & P. signed a contract with printing trades unions allied with the American Federation of Labor providing that all of its printing, which is considerable, is to be done in union shops. It also indicated that it was not averse to organization of its store employees by A. F. of L. unions.

The A. F. of L.'s fight on the Patman bill, it is reported, is based on the argument that chain store taxes are passed on to the consumer and therefore will raise the cost of living.

Economists at Farm Research Inc., an independent organization, contend that food chains could pass a tax on to the consumer only if they were in a monopolistic position. If they operated in competition with independent stores, as they do in most places, the economists said, they would be unable to pass the tax on through higher prices.

FARMING DE LUXE

An agricultural implement manufacturing company is offering a tractor with a cab so the farmer can work in comfort in bad weather. The cab is all enclosing, with a windshield wiper, a ventilating system, hot water heater, radio and cigar lighter. Most tractors at present have open seats.

GREEN OPPOSES PROFIT-SHARING

Opposition to profit-sharing schemes as a substitute for genuine collective bargaining was expressed in Washington by President William Green of the A. F. of L. in testimony before a Senate finance committee group investigating such schemes.

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70 4th ST., Between Mission and Market

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OUR OWN BAKERY

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100 Per Cent Union
DAIRY

HALL TO RENT

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Apply

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1067 Market St. Telephone MA. 4884

S. F. Labor Council

Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at Labor Temple, Sixteenth and Capp streets. Secretary's office and headquarters, Room 205, Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committees meet every Monday at 7:30 p. m. Label Section meets first and third Wednesdays at 8 p. m. Headquarters phone, Market 6304.

Synopsis of Minutes of Meeting Held Friday Evening, December 9, 1938

Called to order at 8:15 p. m. by Vice-President Lawrence Palacios.

Roll Call of Officers—All present excepting President Shelley, who was excused.

Minutes of Previous Meeting—Approved as printed in Labor Clarion.

Credentials—Nurses' Union No. 19923, Agatha Martin, additional delegate; Retail Department Store Employees No. 1100, Dorothy Hordes vice Larry Vail; Show Card Writers and Displaymen, Walter Holtrum; Waitresses No. 48, Elizabeth Kelly vice Luise Halverson. Delegates seated.

Communications—Filed: American Federation of Labor, announcement that the issue of volume entitled "Unemployment Compensation Interpretation Service, Benefit Series, General Supplement No. 1, 1938," may be bought at \$1 a copy from the superintendent of documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Referred to Officers: Letter from Local Joint Board of Culinary Workers, requesting further action on complaint against hospitals in San Francisco, list of which is included in the letter. Resolution presented by Frank J. Ferguson of Trackmen's Union, reciting objections of union against Mr. Cahill, the manager of utilities, appointing an engineer to perform duties in regard to operation of Municipal Railway, although a member of Trackmen's Union passed first in the examination

WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

Austin Studio, 833 Market.
Bankers' Utility Company, 268 First street.
B & G Sandwich Shops.
Beauty Shops at 133 Geary.
Boussum Photographic Studios, 2320 Mission, 133 Geary.
Curtis Publishing Co., publishers of "Saturday Evening Post," "Ladies' Home Journal," "Country Gentleman."
Dial Radio Shop, 1955 Post.
Don's Dollar Sedan Service, 925 Larkin.
F. M. Rowles' service stations at Tenth and Mission, Tenth and Bryant, Twelfth and Howard, Post and Larkin, Haight and Stanyan and San Jose and Alemany.
Forderer Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.
Golden State Bakery, 1840 Polk.
Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of overalls and workmen's clothing.
Gordon's Sea Food Grotto, Ferry Building.
Haas Bros. Candy Stores.
Howard Automobile Company.
Kroehler Furniture Manufacturing Company.
L. C. Smith Typewriter Company, 545 Market.
M. R. C. Roller Bearing Company, 550 Polk.
Navlett Seed Company, 423 Market.
O'Keefe-Merriitt Stove Co. Products, Los Angeles.
Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.
Pig 'n' Whistle Candy Stores.
Purity Springs Water Company, 2050 Kearny.
Remington-Rand Inc., 509 Market.
Riggs Optical Company, Flood Building.
Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.
Sherwin-Williams Paint Company.
Standard Oil Company.
Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster streets.
Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.
Woodstock Typewriter Company, 21 Second.
Woodridge Tractor Equipment Company, Sunnyvale, California.
All non-union independent taxicabs.
Barber shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.
Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of Hair Dressers and Cosmetologists' Union No. 148-A are unfair.

by Civil Service Commission for filling that office. Discussion of matter resulted in referring matter to officers to assist the union protesting.

Referred to Executive Committee: Automobile Mechanics No. 1305, complaint against David Lerer Truck Wrecking Company, 375 Eleventh street. Local Joint Executive Board of Culinary Workers, complaint against Schroeder's Cafe, 111 Front street; also request for strike sanction against Haas Candy Stores.

Referred to the Law and Legislative Committee: Division of Industrial Welfare, through Chief Mabel E. Kinney, transmitting written opinion of Rufus G. Poole, assistant general counsel of Wage and Hour Division of United States Department of Labor, to the effect that the minimum wage-hour law passed by this state is subject to the Federal Wage-Hour Law, and does not prohibit the Industrial Welfare Commission from allowing the reduction of wages from \$16 a week to \$14.65 a week when employer reduces the weekly hours from forty-eight to forty-four, as the wage-hour law is governed by hourly and not weekly regulation.

Referred to Allied Printing Trades Council: Letter from Derbon Press, 140 Second street, objecting to publication in our last minutes that Production Machine Operators' Union is objecting to the claim of the Derbon Press that the Sheet Metal Workers' Union label is the only label entitled to go on the metal part of union-made buttons. To adjust this matter, motion made that the question be referred to the Allied Printing Trades Council for consideration.

Resolution presented by Central Labor Council of Alameda County, urging that Governor-elect Culbert L. Olson grant a full pardon to Tom Mooney. On motion, concurred in.

Request of San Francisco Shut-Ins' Association, that the San Francisco Labor Council co-operate and support the activities of the association in making plans and conducting a charity ball to be given on Treasure Island New Year's Eve, for the benefit of the crippled, blind and the aged needy. On motion, request complied with.

Report of Executive Committee—Recommended a donation of \$50 to the Community Chest, according to usual custom. Held a largely attended meeting of representatives of unions involved in

the controversy of Circular Distributors' Union with the Atlas Distributing Company, one of the largest distributing concerns, which objects to the rules of the union relating to the manner of distribution of large rush orders. After lengthy discussion it appeared that the parties may be able to come to an amicable agreement, wherefore the matter was re-referred to the parties to arrive at a mutually satisfactory agreement. Committee discussed with representatives of unions involved in the complaint of Garage Employees against the Pacific Greyhound Bus Lines relative to the wages to be paid to about fifteen car washers; in view of the petition of the Amalgamated Street Railway Employees to the National Labor Relations Board for the holding of an election among the employees to determine the jurisdiction over the employees, it was thought best by all representatives present to hold this matter in abeyance for sixty days. It was decided to send notice to Mr. Parker of the restaurant at the Furniture Mart, 1355 Market street, to discuss with committee at the next meeting the grievance of the Culinary Workers' Joint Board against that establishment. In the matter of complaint of Classified Newspaper Ad Men on their failure to come to terms with the San Francisco Newspaper Managers, a committee of that union was advised by the committee to take the matter up with the Allied Printing Trades Council and comply with their recommendations before asking this Council to take up a matter which involves so many organizations and members. Report concurred in.

Reports of Unions—Department Store Employees are still on strike at Kress and Newberry stores and ask that unions continue their contributions for the support of those on strike. Production Machine Operators report that they have signed up the Bankers' Utility Company for all its employees. Butchers No. 115 report that they are subject to competition in their union activities to supply help by the California Employment Service, which is advertising its ability to furnish help to all butcher shops and markets, in violation of their signed agreements to apply for all help to the union office; in view of the fact that the Employment Service conducts extensive advertising to furnish help of all kinds without cost and without stipulated agreements, concerning wages and conditions, it is evident that this activity on the part of the Employment Service is injurious to the organized labor movement, which has signed agreements with employers. Street Railway Employees, Division 518, reports that it has donated the sum of \$100 to the Department Store Employees. The Classified Ad Men of the "Examiner" report that they are being discriminated against in regard to employment by the "Examiner." Auto Demonstrators and Drivers report that the Buick Automobile Company is unfair and request all to not patronize that concern. The Lou N. Peters auto shop is now fair.

Receipts, \$1275; expenditures, \$1178.85.

Council adjourned at 9:35 p. m.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

Your Christmas gifts will be doubly welcome with the knowledge that they were made in America and bear the union label.



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GIVE TIME MISSION 16

One of America's Largest Homefurnishers

GIFTS for the HOME

Say Merry Christmas with home furnishings from Lachman Bros., the store of worthy gifts. Select now—

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To Relieve Workers Of Burdensome Taxes

Consideration of ways and means of removing social security taxes from the workingman and buying power was announced last week by the General Welfare Federation of America, advocate of the general welfare act as an improving substitute for tax and payment provisions of the Social Security Act.

"What we need for recovery is fewer taxes on wages, not more," explained Arthur L. Johnson, legislative secretary of the Federation, with offices in Washington, who is drafting amendments to the federation's program designed to take the tax burden off the employees and to benefit business.

The amendments now being drafted will be presented to the congressional steering committee, composed of some eighty members of Congress, and of which committee Representative Harry R. Sheppard of California is floor leader, for consideration and introduction in the new Congress.

Johnson emphasized that the two major changes now being drawn would deduct from the proposed 2 per cent gross income tax all amounts spent by employers for wages, commissions, salaries or other "labor" sums, tax and license fees, and for interest on loans.

Another amendment would exempt the first \$100 of gross income received monthly, which means that workers earning \$1200 or less a year would pay no tax, which, Johnson explained, eliminates the present system under which all workers are paying a direct gross income tax on all their income.

"Under the present federal system," he pointed out, "wages ultimately will be taxed 9 per cent. There are at present no exemptions, which works a hardship on employers and labor, particularly those workers in the lowest wage brackets, to whom 25 cents is a big item.

"By exempting from taxation that portion of the income of a business that goes for wages or other compensation to workers, business should benefit and should be encouraged to use man power instead of machine power."

The federation emphasized that, under the provisions of its general welfare act providing for old-age security pensions for everyone past 60 years of age, billions in buying power would be distributed throughout the nation, instead of the tax receipts being frozen from productive enterprise, as is now done under the Social Security Act.

The federation further demands elimination of the so-called "means test."

Bartenders' Union Election

The election of officers of Bartenders' Union No. 41, held last Monday, was marked by a healthy interest in the result. A surprise was the defeat of Tom Nikola, incumbent secretary-treasurer, by Bill McCabe by a vote of 845 to 730. A three-cornered fight for the office of president resulted in the re-election of Sam Wiesz, incumbent. Other officers elected were as follows:

First vice-president, Roy Kenny; business agents, Jimmy Burke, Art Neergaard, Art Dougherty and Kenny Ryan; trustees, Joe Dempsey, Hugh Delaney and Harry Owens; Local Joint Executive Board, Bill McCabe, Roy Kenny and Tom Nikola; delegates to Label Section, George Flynn and Tom Nickola; executive board, Curley Bell, Bud Harmon, Joe Dempsey, Jack Martin, Frank Fields, Jimmy O'Conner and George Flynn; delegates to Labor Council, Jimmy Burke, Art Dougherty, George Flynn, Roy Kenny, Bill McCabe, Art Neergaard, Tom Nickola, Kenny Ryan, William ("Stormy") Walsh and Sam Wiesz.

If the Community Chest agent overlooked you, mail in your contribution. 45 Second street.

Production Machine Operators Hold Annual Election of Officers

Production Machine Operators' Lodge No. 1327 of the International Association of Machinists held its annual election on Tuesday last, with the following results:

President Martin Mellen, incumbent, was unopposed. Edward Colthurst, incumbent, for financial secretary, and William Kahrau, for vice-president, also were unopposed. Other officials elected were:

Ivy Hays (incumbent), recording secretary; Sylvester Cruz (incumbent), treasurer; Anthony Ballerini (incumbent), business agent; John E. Brynes (incumbent), assistant business agent; executive board, Production Workers, Jessie Anderson, Nelson Ayers, Joseph Bernard, Harry Cummings, Ellis Harrison, Kenneth Meister, Rose Sarro and Lynn Snider; executive board, Ex-Can Workers, Eleanor Biagini, Carmen Brown, Guy Gordon and Lucille Jackson; delegate to Metal Trades, John E. Brynes; delegates to Machinists' Conference, John E. Brynes, Sylvester Cruz, Joseph Ferris and Martin Miller.

A.F.L. Longshoremen Win Run-Off Election in New Orleans Port

The International Longshoremen's Association (A.F.L.) further tightened its control of the New Orleans waterfront when it won, by 47 to 11, a run-off election from the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union (C.I.O.) to determine a collective bargaining agent for employees of the Oceanic Stevedoring Company.

The election, conducted by the National Labor Relations Board, gave the A.F.L. nineteen of the twenty units in which the men originally voted October 14. The latest vote will become official only after a consent election is called by the company, according to N.L.R.B. procedure.

Balloting was for or against the C.I.O., which had 25 votes against 24 for the A.F.L. in the original balloting, with a third union receiving 11 votes.

New Plate Parade Will Commence on January 3

Flashing a new color scheme of blue and gold, California automobile license plates for 1939 will begin to appear January 3 with the opening of the annual period for renewal of registration. California plates for the new year will also be distinguished by the wording, "California World's Fair, '39," in addition to their new color combination of gold lettering on a blue background.

The regular period for renewing registration and securing new plates will continue to February 4, when delinquent penalties will be imposed. Plates will be issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles at its various offices and by the California State Automobile Association to member motorists at thirty-three district offices.

California plates with their new color combination will be part of a rainbow variety of color displayed by the license plates of cars from other states forming the heavy influx of motor tourist travel for Exposition year. A list of license plate colors of the United States, possessions, territories and the Canadian provinces for 1939 was announced by the Automobile Association.

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President

W. M. RINGEN
Vice-President

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Final Figures on No. 1

State Proposition No. 1 in the November election was defeated by 409,150, according to reports from Sacramento.

The total vote for the 58 counties of the state was: Yes, 1,067,229; no, 1,476,379.

Out of the fifty-eight counties, only seventeen gave the vicious anti-labor proposal a majority, and in several of these cases the majority was very small, as low as 23 in Mono County.

The final figures for San Francisco County, as compiled by the secretary of state, were: Yes, 100,354; no, 134,675, or a majority of 34,321 for defeat of the proposal.

Los Angeles County defeated the proposal, 651,874 no, to 411,033 yes—a majority of 240,841.

Counties which gave a majority "yes" vote on the proposal were: Alpine, Calaveras, Colusa, Glenn, Imperial, Inyo, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Mono, Orange, Riverside, San Benito, San Joaquin, Sonoma and Yolo.

HOUSING ADMINISTRATION LOANS

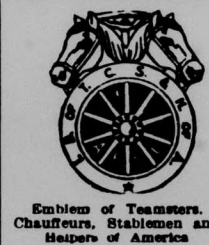
Property improvement loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration have crossed the \$700,000,000 mark, Administrator Stewart McDonald has announced. The total amount of these loans, which are insured under Title I of the National Housing Act, was \$704,959,409 on November 19. This figure was composed of 1,768,536 separate notes. Of the total, 312,609 notes in the amount of \$143,987,310 have been insured since the property improvement credit plan was revived as a result of amendments to the National Housing Act in February.

Milk Wagon Drivers

The annual election of Milk Wagon Drivers' Union No. 226 last Wednesday resulted in the re-election of Carl Barnes as president, and other officers as follows:

Business agent, Steve Gilligan; recording secretary, Charlie Brown (incumbent). Fred Wettstein was re-elected financial secretary without opposition.

No choice was made in the balloting for vice-president and trustee, with the result that a run-off election will be held next Wednesday, the contestants for vice-president being Dan Coleman and Tommy Morrison, and for trustee, Jimmie Murray and Carl Sutter.



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Secretary - Stephen F. Gilligan
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Cooks' Union News

By C. W. PILGRIM

Tuesday, December 13, Cooks' Local 44 held its annual election of officers. Following are the results:

President, C. T. McDonough; vice-president, J. A. St. Peter; secretary, J. Bader; recording secretary, R. Battaglia; business agents, B. Barnett, J. Moore and G. Patran; Local Joint Board, J. Bader, C. T. McDonough and R. Battaglia. Eight were elected to the executive board of the union and a full delegation of ten to the San Francisco Labor Council. All of the above will take office on the 6th of January, 1939. Installation of officers will take place at the meeting of Thursday, January 5, 2:30 p. m. Cooks, be up to your meeting and get acquainted with your officials. Remember, your meeting days have not yet been changed. Thursday is still the day to air your ideas on the floor.

Unemployed cooks, take notice: Don't go suspended for non-payment of dues. If you are one year in good standing and sixty days unemployed you will be carried on the books until you obtain employment, by paying 50 cents per month to cover your per capita taxes.

Christmas Day there will be dinner in the hall for the members as usual. All members are welcome.

Kress and Newberry's stores are still on our unfair list and are being picketed by the store clerks. Warn your children against buying in these places; also be sure when you buy in any of the stores that you ask for the services of a union clerk, wearing a union button. We have spent lots of time, energy and money to organize this store clerks' union. It is still up to the workers to push them forward until they have every store clerk wearing a union button.

Be sure you don't buy German- or Japanese-made goods. Always look for the union label and you can't go wrong.

Defeated Congressman to Contest Republican Opponent's Election

Congressman Byron N. Scott, Eighteenth California Congressional district, defeated by 288 votes, has filed notice for a contested election. He charges his Republican opponent with having sponsored a pre-election call of only Republican election board members, at which meeting special instructions were given them. Charges of irregularities at the polls, falsely challenged voters and in some precincts more counted votes than voters, constitute the points in the contest.

Thomas Eaton, Republican, who seemingly has won, campaigned against Scott on the grounds that Scott's Spanish land grant bill would deprive people of their homes. Scott and other members of Congress refuted these charges as being false, but so strongly did the Republicans stress the point in the closing days of the campaign that it made an impression on the voters that could not be changed.

Canadian Government Will Again Try to Set Up Job Insurance

With the politicians at Ottawa talking of the probability of a general election next year, the Canadian minister of labor, Professor Rogers, has announced that the Dominion government will make another effort to secure the adoption of an unemployment insurance scheme this winter.

The Bennett government put a social insurance act through Parliament in 1934 and set up a board of administrators. When the Mackenzie King government came to office in 1935 the act was declared unconstitutional by the courts and the administrators were dismissed.

Since then the federal government has made desultory efforts to overcome the objection of the

three provinces, Ontario, Quebec and Alberta, to giving the Dominion the necessary authority to administer a contributory unemployed insurance scheme. This would involve a simple amendment to the confederate constitution around which certain privileged interests wish to maintain a taboo.

How the federal government now proposes to get around the difficulty has not been disclosed. But there are reasons for supposing that the privileged interests are now about ready to withdraw their opposition.

Economic stresses threaten Canadian unity, one symptom being the recent decision of the United Farmers to set up a committee to study the question of creating a western state, separated from eastern Canada, which would mean disaster for the overgrown industries of Ontario and Quebec.

Consequently the federal government may now find the privileged interests willing to accept social insurance on a national scale, as that would serve as a binding force in opposition to the factors making for disintegration.

Westinghouse to Put Into Effect Final Wage-Hour Law Provisions

The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company announced in Pittsburgh on December 8 that it will put into effect immediately the final provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act for all salaried non-exempt employees.

Anticipating by three years the minimum wage and maximum hours of the federal act, the Westinghouse concern said it would make retroactive to October 24 the forty-hour provision, which does not become effective under the act until 1940. The announcement affects about 12,000 workers.

"The company's policy is to put the full requirements of the act into force at once, making overtime payments on the forty-hour basis immediately," President George H. Bucher announced.

Oakland Teamsters

With new officers nominated without opposition, the trusteeship of the Brotherhood of Teamsters and Auto Truck Drivers, Local 70, of Oakland, imposed since April, 1937, by the Teamsters' International, will be lifted as soon as the new elective officers take their positions, Charles Real, secretary-treasurer, said this week.

Real, who has held office for thirteen years, and who is unopposed for the secretary-treasurer post, said the election will be held on December 22.

The trusteeship was imposed by the international in a jurisdictional dispute with the C.I.O. over warehousemen.

President Berry of Pressmen To Become Newspaper Publisher

According to an Associated Press dispatch from Nashville, Tenn., United States Senator George L. Berry has acquired a substantial interest in the Nashville "Times," one of the daily newspapers of that city, and is expected to take an active interest in the management thereof in the near future, being named chairman of the board of directors.

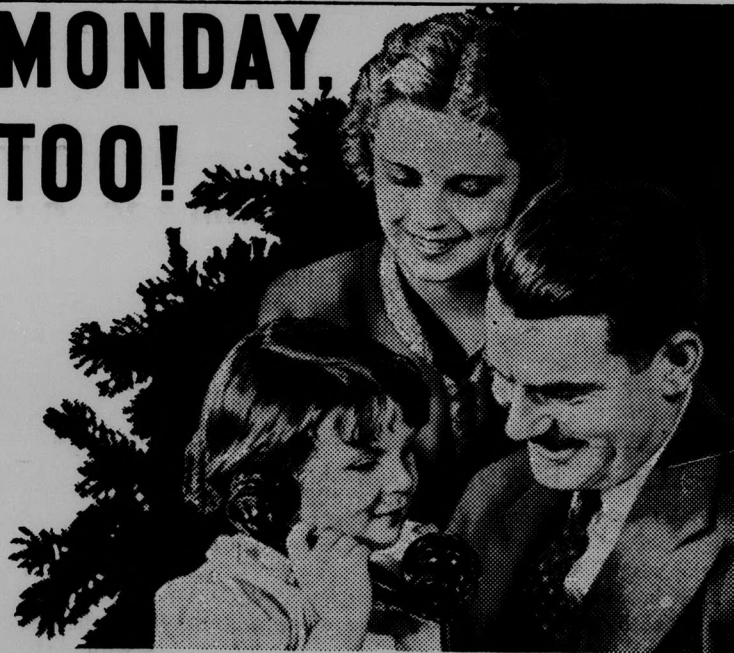
Berry's term as one of the United States senators from Tennessee will expire the first of the year.

For more than a quarter of a century he has been president of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, one of the units of the printing trades groups. No indication has been so far released as to whether he will retire from that position to assume his new duties.

JAMMING WHEELS

Forcing the car too closely to a curb when parking may cause misalignment of wheels, according to the Emergency Road Service of the California State Automobile Association.

MONDAY, TOO!



The attractive Long Distance rates effective to most points every night* and Sunday, will be available this year on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 26** as well.

Christmas greetings and other messages can be telephoned at *night rates* any time between 7 P.M. Saturday, December 24, and 4:30 A.M. Tuesday, December 27.

*Night rates are regularly effective from 7 P.M. to 4:30 A.M. and all day Sundays.



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